

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF MONTANA

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POST Council Hires Ravalli County Undersheriff as Permanent Director

HELENA – Today, the Montana Public Safety Office Standards and Training (POST) Council announced the hiring of a new permanent executive director, Perry Johnson. Perry will begin his new duties on August 19th, replacing temporary director Allen Horsfall.

Perry Johnson is a 26-year veteran of law enforcement in Montana. He is currently the Ravalli County Undersheriff and served as Ravalli County Sheriff from 1993 – 2000. He has also served on the board of the Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association and as chairman of the association's government affairs committee during the 2013 Legislative Session. Perry is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and served as President of the Montana/Idaho National Academy Associates in 2003.

"Perry brings an extensive and impressive background to the council," said POST Chairman Hal Harper. "He has been tested by fire, literally. Perry was Ravalli County Sheriff during the devastating forest fires of 2000, when more than 200 homes and over 300, 000 acres were burned, yet no lives were lost. Credit was given to community confidence in Perry's local leadership and his ability to work closely with the National Type One Management fire teams. What's more, he knows law enforcement issues from the ground up and understands the unique challenges that Montana's public safety officers face in the field."

The POST Council was formed in 2007 as an independent, quasi-judicial board. It is required by state law to set employment and training standards for all public safety officers. POST also provides for the certification of public safety officers and is responsible for the suspension or revocation of certification of public safety officers.

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